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REMEMBER OUR VETERANS ON MEMORIAL DAY, MAY 31ST

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Wednesday, May 19, 2004
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Number 19

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TED ALEJANDRE APPOINTED ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT



Ted Alejandre was recently appointed Assistant Superintendent for Business Administration at Yucaipa Unified School District. Photo by IEHN

The Yucaipa/Calimesa Unified School District Board of Trustees has appointed Ted Alejandre as Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, starting on June 1, 2004. Alejandre is current director of fiscal Services for the San Bernardino School District.

Alejandre received a B.A. Degree in Public Administration and M.A. Degree in Educational Administration, both from Cal-State, San Bernardino. He has received a Multiple Subject Professional Clear Teacher Credential and Professional Clear Administration Credential and is completing a Chief Business Certified Credential.

Before his teaching career, Alejandre was fiscal analyst for the

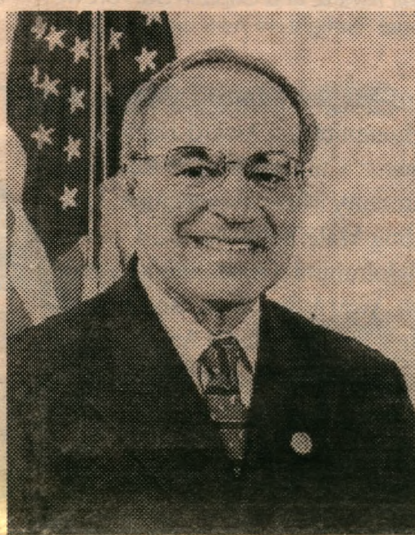
Rialto School District. He started teaching at North Park Elementary School for the San Bernardino School District in 1989, and appointed vice principal at Kendall Elementary School in 1993. He was later appointed vice principal at Ramona-Alessandro Elementary and became principal at the school when Principal Tom Crist retired because of illness. After six years, he was appointed principal at Serrano Middle School.

During his tenure with the school district, Alejandre established a reputation as an effective school administrator and an advocate for strong education programs for all students.

Dr. Arthur Delgado, San Bernardino School District Superintendent, stated that Alejandre was an able teacher and administrator. "We hate to lose good administrators, but this is an upward move for him and we wish him the best of luck." He said.

"I enjoyed working for the San Bernardino City Unified School District and the board has been extremely supportive of me. I am excited to start in the Yucaipa/Calimesa School District and become involved in their communities," Alejandre said

BACA JOINS CITY OF FONTANA IN GRAND CELEBRATION



FONTANA, CA - Congressman Joe Baca (D-Rialto) was honored on Saturday by the city of Fontana Mayor Mark Nuaimi, Fontana City Officials, Public Service Director Curtis Aaron, the Bulik family and members of the Fontana community during the grand opening of the Jack Bulik Park Expansion Project.

"The expansion of the park has been a long time coming," said Congressman Baca. "The park looks beautiful and more importantly is a great recreation area for the kids. This is a great diversion for the kids, a great place for them to come and play."

Congressman Baca joined by friends and family was honored by the

city of Fontana Mayor Mark Nuaimi and the Fontana City Council for his steadfast commitment to the community and for proving instrumental in obtaining funds for the expansion of the community park. The senior baseball field, whose construction is said to begin in September, was dedicated in honor of the Congressman and named the Joe Baca Senior Field.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mayor Nuaimi for his kind words and the City of Fontana for this wonderful dedication. I would also like to thank Curtis Aaron for his hard work and dedication in helping this happen," said Congressman Baca. "I have always been a huge fan of baseball, ever since I was a boy. I never once thought that I would have a field named after me. This is a huge honor."

MEMORIES OF WAR PAST-THE ANTHONY ACEVEDO STORY

See story on pages 4 & 5



Anthony Acevedo displays war medals for military service in World War II. Acevedo was one of thousands of American soldiers captured by the German Army and suffered undue cruelties during his captivity. Photo by IEHN

CONCIERTO PARA LAS MADRES CONCERT HUGE SUCCESS

See pictures on page 3



Mrs. Magdalena D. Bravo, 102 years old, center, was escorted to the Concierto Para Las Madres Concert at the California Theater by her daughter, Lucy Acosta, left, and son in law, Joe Acosta. Mrs. Bravo was one of the oldest mothers at the event. Born in Zacatecas, Mexico, Mrs. Bravo has lived in San Bernardino for approximately 70 years. Photo by IEHN

**The Inland
Empire Hispanic
News Wishes you
a safe
Memorial Day**

REDLANDS NORTHSIDE IMPACT HOLDS LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Redlands Northside Annual Latino/a Leadership recipients: (l to r) Miguel A. Olmedo, Educational Award, Chief of Police James R. Bueermann, Distinguished Service Medal Award, Marsha Gebara, representing Redlands Community Music Association, Cultural Award, Barbara Wormser, Martin L. Gil Humanitarian Award, Patty Holohan, Latina of the Year Award, David Regalado, Latino of the Year Award, and Captain Dan Crowe and Terry Welsh, representing Redlands Professional Firefighters Association, Community Service Award. Photo by IEHN

The University of Redlands' Orton Hall was the ideal setting for Redlands Northside Impact Committee's 2004 Annual Latino/a Leadership and Scholarship Awards, attended by over 200 elected officials and community leaders.

The Northside Impact Committee selected outstanding recipients and entities to receive awards in a broad array of categories: Latino of the Year-David P. Regalado, Latina of the Year-Patricia Holohan, Civic Award-General Employees Association of Redlands, Community Service Award-Redlands Professional Firefighters Assoc., Educational

Award-Miguel Olmedo, Martin L. Gil Humanitarian Award-Barbara C. Wormser, Cultural Award-Redlands Community Music Association, Outstanding Male Youth Award-Combiz R. Abdolrahimi, Outstanding Female Youth Award-Sisi Tian, and Distinguished Service Medal Award-Chief of Police James R. Bueermann.

Scholarship recipients: Talisha Barrios, (nursing), Jesus Nolasco (math), LeeAnn Rigby (liberal studies), Nuvia Vargas (business administration) and Crista Mendoza, (business).

Northside Impact Committee is a community-based organization actively involved in the Redlands area for decades. The group works in Redlands' northside, organizing community forum and focus group to discuss problem areas. Its efforts continues in working in cooperative partnership with the respective governmental agencies to resolve community issues. NIC has been instrumental in organizing voter registration drives, children Christmas parties, get out the vote and other activities.

LATINO OF THE YEAR-DAVID P. REGALADO

David Regalado's family, the Perez family on his mother's side, arrived in Redlands in 1898, and the Regalado family have established a tradition of contributing to the community's economic and educational quality of life for many decades.

David P. Regalado was born and raised in Redlands, attending Franklin, Lincoln, Lugonia elementary schools, Redlands Junior High and Redlands High School, graduating in 1965. While in school, he attended the American Legion Post 650 sponsored Boys State, named Junior Usher, CSF Life Member and received the Frank Araujo Scholar-



Redlands Northside Annual Latino/a recipients: Combiz R. Abdolrahimi, Outstanding Male Youth Award, LeeAnn Rigby, scholarship award, Jesus Nolasco, scholarship award, Sisi Tian, Outstanding Female Youth Award, Talisha Barrios, scholarship award and Crista Mendoza, scholarship award. Not present, Nuvia Vargas, scholarship award. Photo by IEHN

ship.

He attended the University of Redlands on a state scholarship, graduating in 1969; attended the University of California, Santa Barbara, on a state fellowship, received a California Lifetime Credential in 1971, with a major in US Urban History and minor in Latin American Studies. He wrote a paper on "Zoot Suit: Who the Hell They Fighting-Japs or Us" (before the play).

Regalado began his teaching career at Moore Junior High in 1971. At Moore, he sponsored Los Convenios Club, a program to motivate Hispanic students to participate in school activities; and developed a Social Studies Curriculum, including a course on Minority Studies.

In 1977, Regalado was appointed Assistant Principal at Cope Junior High School. In 1982, he was ap-

Continue on Page 7

HISPANIC NEWS

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CONCIERTO PARA LAS MADRES CONCERT HUGE SUCCESS

Concierto Para Las Madres was presented by the Sinfonia Mexicana and performed by the Mariachi Reynas de Los Angeles and Mariachi Divas to a packed audience of mothers and their families from throughout the Inland

Empire. The Sinfonia Mexican Board of Directors presented mothers entering the California Theatre with a rose. Mariachi Reynas de Los Angeles played traditional Mexican music and Mariachi Divas played a

variety of Mexican music and Latin music including cumbia, merengue and cha-cha-cha, a mix that was enthusiastically enjoyed by the audience. Sinfonia Mexicana is celebrating its 17th anniversary of sponsor-

ing the best of Mexican music and Mexican musical stars and presented to the best of appreciative audience, the Hispanic public of the Inland Empire.



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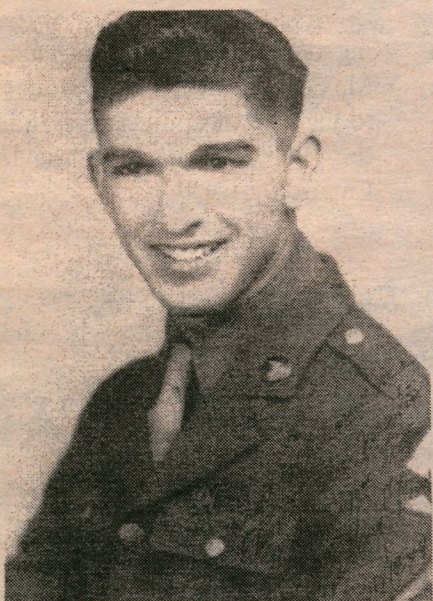
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MEMORIES OF WAR PAST-THE ANTHONY ACEVEDO STORY



Private Anthony Acevedo, taken prior to embarking to the European Theater of War, November 1944. Photo courtesy of Anthony Acevedo

Memorial Day, May 31, is a national holiday set aside to recognize the dedication and sacrifices made by men and women in the service to our country during war and peace. The Anthony Acevedo story is one such experience.

On April 23, 1945, several days before the end of World War II, Anthony Acevedo and 170 of the remaining German prison survivors out of 350 American soldiers were rescued by American tank units in Bad Orb and

Berga am Elster, Germany, an untold experience of torture and starvation of a company of soldiers that has recently been documented and publicized on PBS.

Acevedo was born in San Bernardino and the family moved to South Pasadena after his mother died when he was one ½ years old (he is related to the Saenz and Contreras family in San Bernardino). When he was 13, his father was offered a position of director of public works in the State of Durango, Mexico during the mid-depression. He graduated from the (equivalent) high school in Durango. Later, at the suggestion of the American Consul, he traveled to the United States to register for the draft and was inducted in August 1943. After basic training, he was trained as a medic and assigned to the 70th Division, 275th Regiment, Company B, and the unit was shipped from Boston, Mass. on the USS America to Europe via Marseilles, France in December, 1944.

During the battle of the Bulge in the winter of 1944, American troops, ill clothed for the severe weather, were overrun by a strong and well-equipped German Army. Thousands of American troops were captured and forced to walk barefooted to a railroad junction, and tightly packed into railcars that only allowed them to stand up. The soldiers were shipped by rail to the eastern part of Germany to an overcrowded prison camp known as Bad Orb, Stalag 9 B. There was an estimated 10,000 Russians, 5,000 Britains, 4,000 French and 4,000 Americans in the prison camp.

Each soldier was interrogated for information regarding American troop movements and other details beneficial to the Germans. A high ranking German officer questioned Achieved and, to his surprise, had detailed information on the Acevedo's family, including his father's background. Acevedo responded by giving his name, rank, and serial number, according to the Geneva Convention regulations regarding prisoners of war. When he refused to give added information, stating that the officer was sufficiently informed on his family, the Germans tortured him by inserting needles under his fingernails. "It was very painful situation for me," he said.

The Germans continued to interrogate the American soldiers and attempted to have soldiers of Jewish descent identified. American officers refused to allow Jewish American soldiers to identify themselves.

Soldiers with Jewish names and other "undesirables" were segregated and 350 soldiers, including Acevedo, were shipped to a labor camp at Berga



Anthony Acevedo, right, and Bill Trotter. Both servicemen were inmates in the German prison camp at Berga. Trotter credits Acevedo for saving his life by stitching an aggravated wounded arm, later healing successfully. Photo courtesy of Anthony Acevedo

am Elster. According to Acevedo, only a third of those shipped were actually Jewish.

The living conditions at Berga were extremely bad, as were other German prisoner of war camps, with two men to a bunk bed, lacking in basic sanitation or bathing facilities, the soldiers became covered with filth and lice. The quarters were built of strips of lumber with spaces between them where the bitter wind came through. Meals were practically non-existent

with bread consisting of little barley, sawdust, ground glass and sand. "We had to eat whatever was given, so we could have something in our stomachs," Acevedo said. A variety of sicknesses were prevalent in camp, the worse being dysentery.

The men were assigned at hard labor, specifically to dig tunnels into the mountains, a plan by Hitler's planners to have war production secured from Allied bombers, according to video documentaries produced for public review. The harsh conditions were attributed to Hitler's orders to annihilate prisoners of war, Acevedo said.

During his captivity, Acevedo kept a diary of activities at the camp, the harsh conditions, and its effects on the American prisoners. He detailed, as much as possible, the death of each soldier and reasons for their death, i.e.: deteriorating health or execution (a document that later served as valuable evidence for verification of atrocities and a rehabilitation vehicle for former prisoners, decades later).

Guards announced the death of President Roosevelt to American prisoners with derogatory statements like "your Jewish president has died."

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The RFP may be obtained through the Internet at: <http://www.aqmd.gov/rfp/>

If you have questions or would like a copy of the RFP mailed to you, call the contact person.

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MEMORIES OF WAR PAST-THE ANTHONY ACEVEDO STORY



Anthony Acevedo, right, and Charles Guggenheim, who documented, produced and directed the experiences of American soldiers held prisoners in Bad Orb and Burga am Elster in World War II and publicized on PBS. The documentaries depict the unbearable conditions in prison camps and suffering of American war prisoners. / Photo courtesy of Anthony Acevedo

In April 1995, the Germans became aware that Russians and American troops were advancing in the region close to the Berga prison camp and the prisoners were ordered to move out toward the Bavarian Mountains. During the march, American prisoners witnessed the many political prisoners, men, women and children, who had been killed by Germans and were lying alongside the roads.

Many American prisoners also died while on the march and Acevedo attempted to document their deaths as much as possible in his diary.

German guards told the men to continue to March and American leaders told the men to ignore the order, based mainly on the physical condition of the men. Although threatened by the guards, the men stayed. As American troops got closer, the guards either ran or surrendered.

On April 23, 1945, a day of freedom. Acevedo and other prisoners watched as Patton's tanks rolled into the area and were overcome with emotion and pride as they saw an American flag on one of the tanks. The 350 American prisoners, who were originally sent to Berga, only 170 survived the ravages of the cruel German prison environment. Acevedo, at that time, weighed 85 pounds.

At the time of his Army discharge, Acevedo and the company were required by the American government to sign an agreement to keep their imprisonment a secret. The government refused to accept that they were in a prisoner of war camp, the reason given that it would compromise other POW's, according to Acevedo (at the present time, a reasonable explanation has yet to be given by the government).

The after effects of his prison experience was difficult for Acevedo, who was able to only have discussions of his experiences with his former survivors. He was sent to Santa Barbara for rehabilitation, where a social worker helped many discharged soldiers talk about their ordeals. He was later given a 90-day pass to visit his family.

Acevedo suffered for many years after his discharge. He had digestive problems because of the "food" provided at the prison camp. In addition, the beatings he received resulted in joint difficulties. He took vitamins for three years and his weight went to 110, however, it took ten years before he felt reasonably well. Currently, he is on prescribed medication to alleviate illnesses incurred during his internment.

His goal was to become a doctor after the war, but was stigmatized by the aftermath of his wartime trauma. He became an engineer and worked in the aerospace industry. He married immediately after his return to the states.

Acevedo stated that he made erroneous decisions. "We were told to visit our families, take time off from school or our work, and delay making big decisions. I didn't do any of those things," he said. He and his wife had four children; however, the marriage resulted in a divorce.

Aside from wartime difficulties, Acevedo was also accosted with prejudice regarding being a POW. They were called cowards, an obvious reference that soldiers must fight instead of surrender. "My father asked why had I let myself be captured."

Acevedo continued to be in touch with several of the Berga survivors. In a meeting in Spokane, Washington, a former survivor, Bill Trotter, recognizes him and was appreciative for saving his life. "I didn't remember him," he said. Acevedo stitched Trotter's wounded arm, deflecting infections and later healing.

He was united with the woman he

initially intended to marry and is now living in her home in Yucaipa.

He proudly displays his many medals and honors: Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Silver Star, Commendation Ribbon, American Theatre Ribbon, European Theatre Ribbon, and the German Occupation Ribbon.

The government eventually dropped the agreement and Acevedo and other survivors have spoken publicly throughout the country about their ordeals. He recently spoke to students at the Bishop Gabriel High School in Santa Barbara. "I strongly feel that our young people must know about history and what occurred to many of us during World War II. This knowledge is valuable in planning for a better world," he said.

Three PBS films, "Berga: Soldiers of Another War, Voices of Berga and Tony Acevedo and Norm Fellman, an interview by Dr. Deborah Starks" and other materials produced by Charles Guggenheim are available for public review on www.pbs.org/berga/stories/acevedo_transscript.html.

Editor's note: IEHN thanks Anthony Acevedo for his contribution to the article by releasing valuable historical data for this exclusive interview.

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CASTANEDA FAMILY HAVE ALSO SERVED

Many families have established traditions of military service to our country in time of war and peace. Castaneda family members have continued to serve in the Armed Forces for several generations since World War II.



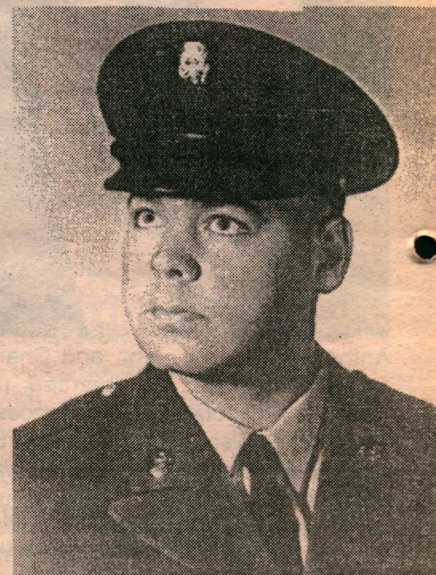
Cpl. John Castaneda, Army Combat Engineers World War II, 1943-1946, 3rd Army, European Theater of War and 8th Army, Asiatic Pacific Theater of War. Navy Sea Bees, Naval Reserve, 1949-1952.



John Castaneda, Jr., (son) Army Sp. 5, Vietnam, 1965-1967



Cpl. Dawn Van Horn (Shores) Castaneda, Army Women Corps, attached to Transport Command, 1944-1946.



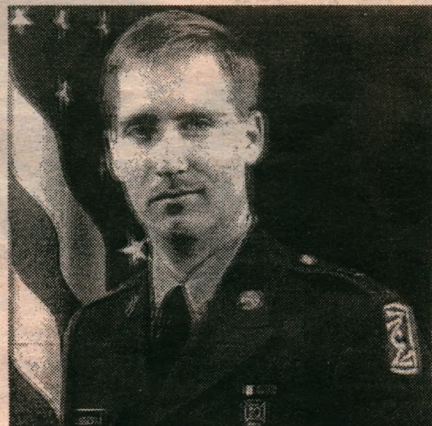
Sp. 5 Martin Shores (Castaneda's stepson), Army, 1st Infantry Division, Vietnam War, 1967-1969, two Purple Hearts.



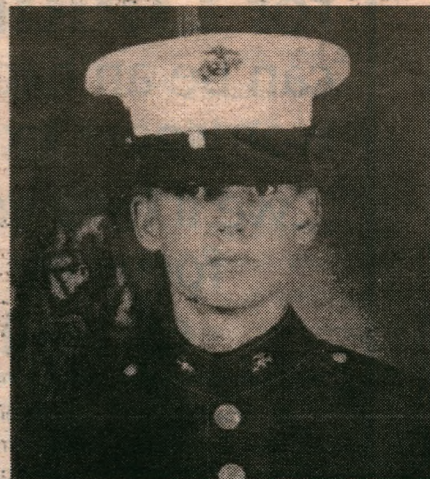
Ronnie J. Castaneda, (great grandson) Marine Corps, Boot Training Graduate, Camp Pendleton, February 4, 2004.



Nickolas J. Castanada, (great grandson) Marines Corps, Boot Training Graduate, Camp Pendleton, September, 2003.



Thomas Cuthbertson, (Castaneda's step-grandson) Army, 1986-1988



Martin Shores (Castaneda's grandson) Marine Corps, 1998-2001

THIRD ANNUAL ESF DINNER RECOGNIZES DESERVING STUDENTS

The *Esperanza Scholarship Foundation* (ESF) Dollars for Scholars, a 501 © 3, non-profit organization, is hosting its Third Annual Dinner event on Thursday, June 3 at the Ontario Airport Marriott. This event brings together business, education, community leaders, as well as local residents committed to community building through education.

The *Foundation* is committed to the educational success of our youth by providing scholarship opportunities to deserving students in the local area. ESF's

mission is to assist students in achieving their educational goals by providing financial assistance and academic support in the form of scholarships and grants. In addition to awarding scholarships, this year's program will feature keynote speaker Dr. John Husing, the renowned Inland Empire economist, and Master of Ceremonies, Dr. Herb Fisher, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools. The mayor of Ontario, Gary Ovitt, will be the Honorary Dinner Host.

In 2003 the *Foundation* awarded

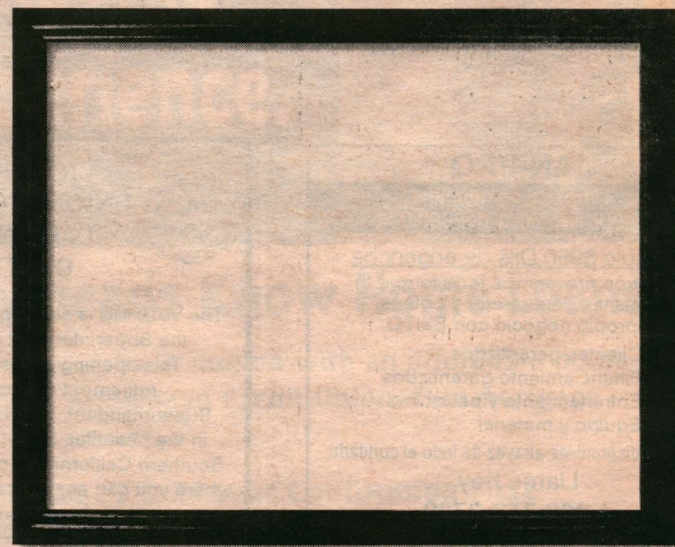
\$2,500 in scholarships. ESF and Burrtec Waste Industries partnered to award a \$5,000 scholarship named for last year's keynote speaker, Dr. Frances A. Cordova, Chancellor of the University of Riverside. Dr. Cordova has been invited to be present at this year's event to award the scholarship named in her honor.

The *Foundation* is actively soliciting

corporate and individual donors for the June 3rd event and welcomes the involvement and participation of local residents. Tickets for this event are \$100 per person; the cost for a table is \$800, with corporate sponsorships available at the \$500 to \$5,000 level.

For more information, contact: Paul Gomez (909) 238-6444.

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REDLANDS NORTHSIDE IMPACT HOLDS LEADERSHIP AWARDS

pointed Principal at Lugonia Elementary School. At Lugonia, he strengthened the Bilingual Program: hired Bilingual Credentialed teachers; established health clinics for parents; received San Bernardino County recognition for improved quality of education for language minority students-1989; recipient of the ACSA Elementary Administrator, Region 12, (composed of Riverside and San Bernardino Counties) in 1991; and recipient of the PTA Honorary Service Award.

In 1996, Regalado was appointed principal at Moore Middle School, establishing the following in-school activities: AVID Program, Dream Program-a program to encourage girls in math and science, reestablishing the Reading Program for "at risk" students, and organized the Intervention/Summer School Program for "at risk" students. He received the PTA Golden Oak Service Award-2001 and Friends of Music Award-2002.

In 2002, he became principal at Bryn Mawr Elementary School. The school was recognized as State Achieving School-2003, and named a Blue Ribbon Nominee-2003. His educational involvement include: ACSA/RAPA member (33 years, president 10 years); RUSD Strategic Planning Program-1991, recognition by Parents and Friends for a Second High School-1993.

Regalado is also involved in his community: church youth sponsor, president-board of trustees, chairperson-council of ministries, and Sunday school teacher. In Boy Scouts, Webelos leader, cub master pack 5-Franklin School and parent volunteer-Troop 44, AYSO coach (15 years), YMCA Board, Redlands High Aquatic Booster Club and Noon Kiwanis Club.

Regalado's wife, Sharon Carr Regalado, is a teacher at Franklin Elementary School.

David P. Regalado continues the family tradition of contributing toward the quality of life in education in Redlands.

LATINA OF THE YEAR-PATTY SEGOVIA HOLOHAN

Patty Segovia Holohan was recognized as one of the most active volunteers in the Redlands area. Her participation in social and education activities, health and youth programs in the area has increased a demand for her leadership roles.

Segovia Holohan's wide array of volunteer work: Assistance League Heritage Auxiliary-tour guide to district's 4th graders, interpreter-bilin-

gual for Spanish-speaking families, Provisional chairperson-2002 to present; Associates of the Redlands Bowl-chair, Entertainment Bowl Benefit-2000, chair, Major Fund Raising for Candidates/Bowl Benefit-1996, co-chair, Silent Auction-Bowl Benefit, 1993; AYSO-Redlands: Bonnes Meres Auxiliary, president-1999 to 2000, co-chair-Auction, 1998; Boys and Girls Club, chair, Silent Auction/Chocolate Fantasy Fundraiser; Brownie and Girl Scouts; Redlands Recreation Commissioner; Redlands Flag Football; Redlands 2000 Committee; Clement

Junior High, chair-Alumni Farewell Committee; Redlands Bench Warmers; Redlands Community Hospital-advisory and patient board member; and Redlands High School-Centennial Celebration Committee;

Segovia Holohan is involved at Sacred Heart Parish/Academy: parish council/parish life commissioner, Eucharistic minister, lector and prior Sunday school instructor, Parent-Teacher Group, school board president, 1996-1998, room parent, K-7th grades, chair-Major Fundraiser and current Middle School Flag Football coach.

Segovia Holohan is associated with the Diocese of Riverside/San Bernardino Office of Catholic Schools. She was appointed golf tournament coordinator in 2002 and 2003, both fundraiser events being financially successful and current Sacred Heart Development Director, and YMCA Hockey, team mom.

Patty Segovia Holohan represents the spirit of volunteerism and her leadership role in advancing a progressive social and educational life in the Redlands and adjacent areas.

Llame antes de cavar.



Usted se puede herir o herir a otros.

Puede pagar significativas multas y costosas reparaciones.

Siempre es conveniente saber donde están enterradas las líneas de servicios públicos subterráneas **antes** de comenzar cualquier tipo de proyecto que implique cavar. Las líneas pueden estar escondidas debajo de calles y senderos; incluso debajo de terrenos vacantes y a lo largo

de los límites de una propiedad. Siempre que necesite cavar, estará el riesgo de encontrarse con líneas de gas natural, electricidad, agua, teléfono o cable.

No importa si usted está cavando en su patio o excavando para un proyecto comercial, la ley requiere que antes llame al servicio de ubicación

Dig Alert. Dentro de dos días laborales luego de su llamada, cada servicio público visitará su propiedad y marcará dónde se encuentran sus instalaciones, para que de esta forma usted o su contratista pueda cavar con seguridad. El no obtener la ubicación apropiada de las líneas de los servicios subterráneos puede tener como consecuencia multas significativas y costosas facturas de reparación.

Para seguridad de todos llame a **Dig Alert**, al número de teléfono sin cargo, dos días laborales antes de comenzar a cavar. Es simple, es gratis, es la ley.

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San Bernardino City Unified School District

The proposed 2004/05 Budget for the San Bernardino City Unified School District will be available for inspection from June 8, 2004 to June 15, 2004 during regular business hours located at the Board of Education, 777 North F Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410.

The 2004/05 Proposed Budget Hearing for the San Bernardino City Unified School District will be held on June 15, 2004 at 5:30 p.m. at Board of Education, Community Room, 777 North F Street, San Bernardino, CA 92410.

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Karan Hanes
Secretary II
Warm Springs Elementary